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Saltonstall Denies 'Clandestine' Links Of C.I.A. and School

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 18 — Senator Leverett Saltonstall said today that there was no "clandestine" about the Central Intelligence Agency's participation in a Michigan State University program to train security policy in South Vietnam from 1955 to 1959.

"The C.I.A. representatives worked specifically in training the Vietnamese police services, not in Clandestine C.I.A. activities," the Massachusetts Republican declared on the floor of the Senate.

Mr. Saltonstall, who is a member of the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee, which deals with C.I.A. activities, said that he had asked the agency about published reports criticizing it for allegedly having used an institute of higher learning as "cover" in Vietnam.

According to the C.I.A., the police training mission originated in a 1954 proposal by President Dwight D. Eisenhower to help free world nations strengthen their police and security forces against Communist subversion, Senator Saltonstall said. Other United States agencies beside the C.I.A. were

ordered to provide assistance including manpower.

Owing however to the "urgency" of the situation and the non-availability of adequate personnel the Government contracted the responsibility to Michigan State University and the university in turn, agreed to include C.I.A. technicians in its program, Mr. Saltonstall said.

Desmond Fitzgerald Named

In an Esquire magazine article published today, Desmond Fitzgerald is named as the man in charge of espionage activities abroad for the C. I. A.

Mr. Fitzgerald is identified as the deputy director of plans for the agency. He is the former husband of Marietta P. Tree, who was a member of the United States delegation to the United Nations.